might yet bo Prince in Antioch and the protector
of the native churches of Syria,

But now the struggle of Latin and Greek over
Northern Syria, and the internal feuds of the
Prankish princes, were eclipsed in a great disaster,
the noise of which echoed to the farthest corners
of the Christian and Moslem worlds,

The county of Edessa had been the first founded
of the crusading states; Baldwin, brother of
Godfrey of Bouillon, turning aside from the main
army as it set its face in the autumn of 1097
towards Antioch, had penetrated as far eastward
as Edessa, and after several preliminary conquests
became lord of that city (March, 1098), His
present successor in the county which he founded
was Jocelyn II,, an indolent prince, who neglected
the defence of Edessa, and preferred a safer capital
on the western side of the Euphrates, A danger-
ously remote outpost of the Latin states, Edessa
was marked down for a great *coup d& main* by
Zenki* While Jocelyn was away at Antioch, and
the Emperor John and Raymond were at swords
drawn, the Atabeg appeared without warning
before the of Edessa (28th November, 1144).
The weak garrison of Prankish knights and Armen-

ian men-at-arms held out for twenty-eight days
against the onslaughts of the Turks, but at last
the latter entered the city through the breach
where &nki'i towers had levelled the wall
(23d December), The troops and the inhabitants
without distinction were put to the sword; but